22nd March 1955]

Silt clearance in Chidambaram taluk.

* 1537 *Q.*—Sri G. VAGHEESAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount spent for silt clearance in irrigation channels solely by the Government in Chidambaram taluk during 1952–53 and 1953–54; and

(*b*) the amount spent by the Government for silt clearance in irrigation channels formed under the Kudimaramath Act in Chidambaram taluk during 1952–53 and 1953–54.

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Rs. 5,729 during 1952–53 and Rs. 9,709-15-0 during 1953–54.

" (*b*) Nil."

Paper Mills for the Nilgiris.

* 1538 *Q.*—Sri K. T. RAJU (on behalf of Sri N. K. Palanisamy) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a paper mill is proposed to be started in the Nilgiris on the basis of the recommendations of Mr. Sundelin, a Swedish Paper Expert;

(*b*) if so, when ; and

(*c*) the amount to be invested for the same?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Government have no information on Mr. Sundelin or his recommendations regarding the paper industry. However, the Government, on their own initiative are considering the possibilities of establishing a paper mill based on wood pulp from the Nilgiris district, for the manufacture of ordinary writing and printing paper.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The matter is under consideration and no decision has been taken."

Smallpox in Malabar.

* 1539 *Q.*—Sri K. MOIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have investigated the cause of the large-scale outbreak of smallpox in Malabar and whether it was mainly due to the negligence shown by the Health Department in regard to vaccination ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have any scheme now to speed up vaccination in the areas affected by smallpox in Malabar?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and to the latter part of the question is in the negative.

" (*b*) The existing scheme of vaccination is sufficient to speed up vaccination."